

BPA Rulebook (Page 10-11) Rule 3, Sections 2-5 (Online Rulebook available at www.playbpa.com)
EQUIPMENT

Sec. 2 The official bat shall be a smooth round cylinder with a knob that is permanently and securely fastened and shall not exceed more than 2-3/4 inches in diameter at the thickest part and not more than 36 inches in length. There shall be no devices, attachments or wrappings that cause the handle to become flush with the knob. Molded grips are illegal. Only bats and devices designed to remain part of the bat, such as weighted bats, batting doughnuts and wind-resistant devices are legal at any location. A non- wood bat must have a safety grip of cork, tape or composition material. The grip must extend a minimum of 10- inches but not more than 18- inches. Slippery tape or similar material shall be prohibited. In the 15 and under age divisions and above the bat shall not weigh numerically more than three- (3) ounces less than the length of the bat. Example: A 33- inch bat cannot be less than 30- ounces.

***NOTE:** *In the 15U and above age divisions non-wood bats shall meet the Ball Exit Speed Ratio- (BESR) performance standard, and such bats shall be labeled with a silk screen or other permanent certification mark.*

***NOTE:** *All legal bats are permitted to be used which includes the use of the big barrel bats in all divisions of BPA play.*

Sec. 3 No laminated or experimental bats shall be used in the BPA Baseball Program, until the manufacturer has secured approval from the BPA Baseball National Office of its design and methods of manufacture.

***NOTE:** *Any bat designated by the manufacturer for sports other than baseball may not be used.*

Sec. 4 CUPPED/BROKEN, CRACKED BATS.

An indentation in the end of the bat up to one inch in depth is permitted and may be no wider than two inches and no less than one inch in diameter. The indentation must be curved with no foreign substance added. Bats that are broken, cracked or dented or deface the ball- (tear the ball) shall be removed without penalty. A bat that continually discolors the ball may be removed from the game with no penalty at the discretion of the umpire.

Sec. 5 The bat handle not more than 18 inches from its end, may be covered or treated with any material or substance, which improves the grip. **A bat choke may be used on the handle of the bat which would not make it an altered bat.** Any such material or substance, which extends past the 18 inches limitation, shall cause the bat to be removed from the game.

***PENALTY:** If the umpire discovers that a bat does not conform to Sections 2, 3, 4, or 5 above until a time during or after which the bat has been used in play, it shall not be grounds for declaring the batter out, or ejected from the game.

****PENALTY:** Please refer to Rule 7, Section 8-(f) to an addition penalty(s) regarding a batter using an altered or a tampered bat.

Sec. 6 No bats will be allowed to stay in the area outside the batter's circle.